MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D.C., March 16, 1949.

The sixth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1949, was held in its Office in the Interior Department Building on Wednesday, March 16, 1949. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Sterne,
Mr. Murphy,
also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on February 11, 1949, were approved, except that it was decided to give further consideration to a suggestion made by Mr. Lawrie that copies of the Houdon busts of Washington and Jefferson be secured for the White House with funds offered by an anonymous donor. Mr. Sterne submitted a protest, as follows:

> I regret to have been absent from the last meeting due to a bad cold. I have read the Minutes of the meeting and I cannot approve the suggestion made by Lee Lawrie that marble copies be made from the plaster casts of Washington and Jefferson by Houdon, utilizing the funds which might be available so generously offered by an anonymous donor.
>
> True plaster casts are not suitable for the White House--but neither are copies. As we always have excluded copies from the White House, I cannot understand why we should suddenly reverse our opinion in this instance.
>
> Instead, I would suggest that bronze casts be made form the present models (which were made from the originals) for three reasons:
>
> First; because a cast is not a copy;
> Secondly; Bronze would look much better than cold marble;
> Thirdly: It would be much more economical.
>
> I notice that the prospective donor suggests a painting. An excellent idea. On the few occasions that I have had the privilege of visiting the White House, I was struck by the fact that aside from the numerous portraits of the former occupants, it lacks decorative embellishments which make a place "homy," and attractive. European palaces have a warmth and coziness, due mainly to works of art.

This was probably the main reason why the anonymous donor has so generously made the offer.

Why not use the funds for the purchase of fine paintings, to be placed in the main rooms of the White House, by contemporary and fairly recent masters, such as Ryder, Homer, Eakins, and others. Of course, even $25,000 would not go far, but if this project were a success it is quite possible that it may establish a precedent in the White House, and the President and his family and the Nation would gain much in the enjoyment of things beautiful.

The matter was laid over for discussion when Messrs.Finley and Lawrie are present.

2. REAPPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN CLARKE: The Secretary reported that recently, Mr. Finley, who is away in California for a month, received a letter from President Truman, expressing his appreciation of the letter sent to him by the Members on February 11, 1949, asking for the reappointment of Mr. Clarke (Exhibit A).

Mr. Clarke said he did not know about the letter until he saw a copy of it in the Minutes, and expressed his appreciation of the recognition given by the Members for his services as a Member and Chairman.

3. CHAIRS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: The Secretary reported that recently a letter was referred to the Commission of Fine Arts by Secretary to the President Hassett, asking advice concerning an offer of two mahogany Fiddleback chairs for the White House; that the matter has been taken up confidentially, on the suggestion of Mr. Finley, with the Director of the Museum of Art at Rochester, New York, to ascertain whether or not the chairs are suitable for the White House. No report has as yet been received.

4. PORTRAIT OF MRS. GROVER CLEVELAND FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: The Commission took note of correspondence from Miss Appolonia H. Cassidy, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York. Miss Cassidy has offered to have a copy made of the Zorn portrait of Mrs. Grover Cleveland, which is now the property of her daughter, Mrs. Amen, in New York City.

Mr. Sterne recommended strongly that the original portrait by Zorn be secured for the White House in preference to a copy.

5. CONSULTING ARCHITECT FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: Mr. Murphy reported that had heard from members of the American Institute of Architects about the pointment of Edward Fairfax Neild, of the firm of Neild, Somdal and Neild, ty Bank Building, Shreveport, La., as Consulting Architect for the White House, ich is to undergo repairs at a cost of approximately $5,000,000. Mr. rphy said he understood that the firm has been established in Shreveport r many years but knew of no outstanding work that they have done.

6. FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: The Commission pressed their appreciation of the services rendered by the Secretary in nnection with the publication of the Fifteenth Report of the Commission of ne Arts, for the fiscal years 1944-1948, which was printed by Resolution of e House of Representatives, approved June 10, 1948, and printed as House cument No. 727, and was released today. The Commission regarded the Report interesting document, well illustrated, and printed in good form.

7. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR JOHN MARSHALL PLACE: Mr. Thomas C. Jeffers, ndscape Architect, representing the National Capital Park and Planning mmission, presented to the Commission alternate studies for the landscape eatment of John Marshall Place, between Pennsylvania Avenue and D Streets, rthwest. The plans had been made in the Highway Department of the istrict of Columbia.

The drawings were inspected and were given particular attention by r. Clarke as to their landscape features. The Commission concurred in the eport by Mr. Clarke, which was sent to the National Capital Park and Planning ommission, as follows:

> The Commission of Fine Arts favor, for the present at least, retaining the existing location of the curbs and the pavement and the addition of two service streets with appropriate sidewalks, one along the east side and one along the west side of John Marshall Place. These service streets should not exceed a width of 30 feet between curbs; in fact

they would be better if made narrower, say 24 feet between curbs. These service streets would serve the District Court House on the east and the District Library on the west. The service street on the easterly side would be for northbound traffic; the service street on westerly side would be for southbound traffic; the existing pavement in John Marshall Place would be utilized for traffic in two directions. These streets should be laid out in a manner so as not to interfere in any way with the existing row of elm trees, and the parking of automobiles on the existing pavement of John Marshall Place should be prohibited.

We believe that this arrangement will satisfy present needs and at such time as a grade crossing elimination is constructed in Pennsylvania Avenue it may be possible to eliminate the existing pavement of John Marshall Place, substituting therefore a Mall with lawn and widening the two service streets on the inside to provide for a larger volume of traffic.

I hope the solution of the problem referred to herein will meet the approval of the National Captial Park and Planning Commission. (Exhibit B)

8. SESQUICENTENNIAL EXPOSITION BUILDINGS: The Secretary reported that a few days ago he received a request from Mr. Edward Boykin, Director of the National Capital Sesquicentennial Commission, requesting the assistance of the Commission of Fine Arts in the matter of locating their proposed Exposition Buildings on the Polo Field in West Potomac Park; that, thereupon, he secured a map of West Potomac Park from the Office of National Capital Parks, showing the location of the temporary War Buildings on the Polo Field, and arranged for the conference today. The following were present:

Mr. Boykin,
Mr. John L. Nagle, representing the Public Buildings Admn.,
Mr. Harry T. Thompson, Asst. Supt., National Capital Parks,
Mr. Merle Sager, Chief of Planning, " " " ,
Mr. Archie Burgess, representing Leon Chatelain, Jr., architect of the Exposition Buildings.

The map was inspected and it was noted that the Polo Field is fully 2,000 feet in length and approximately 600 feet wide. There are several temporary war buildings there. Mr. Nagle, who has charge of the Office of Space Control, in P. B. A., said that those buildings are under the jurisdiction of the Navy Dept.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Office of National Capital Parks has for nths been trying to have the Navy give up those buildings, since they are park land, and that a while ago a letter was received from the Navy stating hat the buildings would be vacated in June or July of this year, at least hat every effort would be made to do so. Nothing further has been heard om the Navy since then about the matter. It seems only half are occupied.

The Commission offered to help Mr. Boykin in having these temporary r buildings dismantled, so that the space would be available for the xposition Buildings.

Mr. Boykin also recommended that the Sylvan Theater be made available n an enlarged form for an out-of-door theater during the Sesquicentennial elebration in the year 1950. The Commission concurred in the matter.

A Report was sent to Mr. Boykin accordingly (Exhibit C).

9. INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION MEMORIAL TABLET: The Commission took ote of a letter (Exhibit D) received from the Secretary of the Interstate ommerce Commission, making further suggestions regarding their proposed orld War II Memorial Tablet, [redacted].

The matter was referred to Mr. Lawrie for his recommendation.

10. INTERIOR DEPARTMENT MEMORIAL TABLET: The Commission took note of letter received from the Chairman of the Interior Department Memorial ommittee (Exhibit E), advising that the Committee had decided to locate the emorial tablet on the "cheek blocks" at the entrance to the building from Street, but without plants and lighting.

The Commission decided that before the Committee take further action n the matter they should consult Mr. Lawrie, and that thereupon they should mploy a good architect to design the tablet. (Exhibit E-1) (see also E 2)

Honing the existing stone to be suitable for tablets, and using a V- ut letter was offered as a suggestion by the Commission.

11. TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER, WORLD WAR II: Chairman Clarke called attention to a letter received from Quartermaster General Hastings regarding the suggestion made, at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on February 11th, to have a model made of the suggested design for the Tomb (Exhibit F).

The Commission felt that the approximately $5,000 which the model would cost would in the ultimate be a saving in the cost of the monument.

Mr. Clarke suggest Devon Dennet as model makers.

12. COMMITTEE ON WHITE HOUSE FURNISHINGS: Chairman Clarke presented a Report received from Mrs. Harold I Pratt on the work of the Committee for the period during which she was Chairman of the Committee, that is from the Administration of President Coolidge to about the present time.

A letter of appreciation was sent to Mrs. Pratt (Exhibit G). Also it was decidéd to make the Report a part of these Minutes (Exhibit H).

13. NEW HIGHWAY BRIDGE: The Commission ratified the action of the Chairman in approving the recommendation of Mr. Shepley, architect of the new Highway Bridge, to simplify the girders by omitting certain of the ornaments (Exhibit I).

14. EXTENSION OF THE CENTRAL PORTICO OF THE CAPITOL EASTWARD: The Commission having heard that this subject has been revived recently, since additional Committee Rooms in the Capitol are needed, decided to make a part of the Minutes a statement by Senator Andrews on the subject, which appeared in the Congressional Record sometime ago (Exhibit J).

Chairman Clarke stated that this is a subject of long standing, indeed ever since Thomas U. Walter's design to enlarge the Capitol was carried out nearly ninety years ago. Now there are groups in the country that do not want the central portico to be brought out to be on a line with those of the Senate and the House of Representatives, even though this will give the Dome a better setting.

15. SWIMMING POOLS: Mr. Merrel A. Coe, Municipal Architect, submitted designs for three Swimming Pools, proposed for construction by the District of Columbia Government, as follows:

Taft Junior High School, in Northeast Washington;
Randall Recreation Center, in Southeast Washington;
Fort Reno Recreation Center, in Northwest Washington

Mr. Coe explained the drawings. Regarding the Swimming Pool for the Taft Junior High School, he said the idea prevailed at one time to put the pool out in the Recreation Center in front of the building, but the District Government didn't buy the extra land needed over on Eighteenth Street.

All of the pools are covered pools in a building, which can be used the year round. There is access from the school and also there is an entrance for the public to go to the locker rooms. There is provision also for a parking area not far from the pool. Mr. Coe said that it has been a "rush job" to get the drawings ready and the designs were prepared by Ackley, Bradley and Day. The Swimming Pools are similar in construction. The estimated cost is $530,000. Each pool is " a twenty-five meter swimming pool." The water will be chemically treated.

Similarly the drawings for the Randall Recreation Center and for the Fort Reno Recreation Center Swimming Pools were inspected and their location noted.

The Commission thereupon approved the designs, and Mr. Coe was notified accordingly (Exhibit K).

16. SCULPTURE AND OTHER DETAILS RELATED TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBERS, UNITED STATES CAPITOL: Mr. Francis Sullivan, architect, appeared before the Commission in behalf of the Honorable David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol. Mr. Sullivan displayed a sample of the gray rubber tiling for the floors of the Galleries of a color to harmonize with

the French gray marble base.

The Commission approved the tiling as being eminently satisfactory and an improvement over cork previously suggested.

Mr. Sullivan made the following statement regarding plans for sculpture:

> "I thought you might like to know what we are doing about the sculpture. That sudden passage of legislation in the House of Representatives (to make the changes in the House of Representatives Chamber at the same time as they are being made in the Senate Chamber) puts us on the spot, because it means we will have to make twenty-two plaques and carve them in marble in time to set them in place before January. We decided it would be best to divide it up among a number of sculptors, and we asked six to make four plaques each, and it was our intention to ask Mr. Lawrie to act as liaison officer between the sculptors and architects. The sculptors we have asked are Manship, Mrs. Fraser, Kiselewski, and Miss Putnam.
>
> "Now, moving the clock down from the doors to the gallery level is going to make a place for two more plaques which will be on an axis, and we thought we would have the profiles facing each other symmetrically and that middle one would have to be whole-face, and for that we had considered, though we haven't spoken to them about it, Quattrochi and DeMarco, because they seem to have had success in that phase of it."

In response to a question by Mr. Sterne, Mr. Sullivan said, "The plaques are about thirty inches in diameter, and the heads, as indicated on the drawings, are twice life size. They will be reliefs, as indicated, somewhere around an inch and a half or two inches high, portraying great legislators of the past. We have asked Dr. George Collier, Professor of Law at the George Washington University, a very ardent student of history, to prepare a list of such figures for the basis of discussion."

Mr. Sterne suggested additional names for consideration by the Commission as follows: Jose de Kreft; Helena Sardeau; Naguchi; and Wm. Zorach.

Mr. Sullivan referred to the State seals on the stained glass, which are over the House Chamber now: "The Committee, before passing this legislation, were insistent that the State Seals should be incorporated in the design." Mr. Sullivan added that the glass seals are to be returned to the respective

States, but that there will be new seals moulded in plaster to be placed appropriately in the ceiling. Mr. Sullivan suggested an architectural sculptor, Sam Belin, for this work.

As for the Senate, Mr. Sullivan said,"Most of the work in the Senate is in the second stage, so it wouldn't have to be done next summer, but the work in the House of Representatives is right upon us. Mr. Lawrie is to do the panels and Sidney Waugh the eagle and clock in the Senate. The contract for the Senate has been let. They have agreed on a contract for the House of Representatives, but it hasn't been formulated."

The Commission took no formal action, but indicated to Mr. Sullivan that they approved of his procedure as outlined.

17. HOOVER COMMISSION ON REORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT: The Secretary presented a Memorandum received from President Truman, in which the Departments and Agencies of the Government were asked to send a Report to the Bureau of the Budget as to their views and recommendations concerning four Reports thus far sent to Congress. These involved primarily Personnel and Budgeting.

Chairman Clarke suggested that a statement somewhat as follows be sent to the Director of the Budget:

> The Commission of Fine Arts are aware of the careful study given to questions relating to the reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government by the Commission under ex-President Hoover's chairmanship, and, while they are not familiar with the details of the recommendations contained therein, they feel that the report deserves careful study with a view toward effecting changes in the interest of efficiency and economy; they support the broad general principles which have been laid down by the Hoover Commission aimed toward more efficient operation and greater economy in the Executive Branch of the Government.

The Commission concurred in this, and a letter was sent to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget accordingly (Exhibit L).

Mr. Clarke explained that the work was distributed among committee groups known as Task Force.

18. PORTRAIT OF FORMER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ANDERSON: The Commission having been informed by the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture that the portrait of former Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, by Alfred Jonniaux, had been completed, and that the advice of the Commission concerning it was desired, the Commission asked Mr. Sterne to inspect the portrait.

Mr. Sterne inspected the portrait at the studio of Mr. Jonniaux, at 2653 Connecticut Avenue, Northwest, in company with the Secretary, during the afternoon.

Mr. Jonniaux told Mr. Sterne that Senator Anderson had been in the studio that morning in company with Mrs. Anderson, and that they like the portrait. It was mounted in a frame, measuring about 4½ x 3 feet, and it is to be placed with the collection of portraits of former Secretaries in the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Jonniaux said he considered it a good likeness of Senator Anderson. Mr. Sterne replied that he had never met Senator Anderson. Thereupon, Mr. Sterne made some criticisms, and Mr. Jonniaux took up his palet and brush and improved the painting in Mr. Sterne's presence. Mr. Sterne also made some comments about the posture of the sitter on the chair arm.

After leaving the studio, Mr. Sterne told the Secretary to report: "Tell them the portrait is all right." The Secretary understood this to mean that the portrait is satisfactory, and reported this information to the Chairman immediately, who, in turn, reported approval of the portrait to the Department of Agriculture (Exhibit M).

19. Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Apartment: (Exhibit N)

20. NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: Chairman Clarke reported that he would be in France during the month of April, inspecting several World War II Cemeteries. The Commission decided, therefore, to hold their next meeting in Washington on Friday, May 6, 1949.

The Commission adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 15, 1949

Dear Mr. Finley:

I appreciated very much your letter of the eleventh in regard to the recommissioning of Major Gilmore D. Clarke. I am certainly glad to have your views on that subject and to know of your high opinion of Major Clarke.

Please express my appreciation to the other members of the Commission and thank them for me for expressing their views.

Sincerely yours,

Harry S. Truman

Honorable David E. Finley
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

WASHINGTON

March 17, 1949

Major General U.S. Grant III
Chairman
National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Re: John Marshall Place

Dear General Grant,

Mr. Thomas C. Jeffers, representing the Planning Commission, presented to the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 16, 1949, alternate studies for the reconstruction of John Marshall Place between Pennsylvania Avenue and "D" Street, N.W..

The Commission of Fine Arts favor, for the present at least, retaining the existing location of the curbs and the pavement and the addition of two service streets with appropriate sidewalks, one along the east side and one along the west side of John Marshall Place. These service streets should not exceed a width of 30 feet between curbs; in fact they would be better if made narrower, say 24 feet between curbs. These service streets would serve the District Court House on the east, and the District Library on the west. The service street on the easterly side would be for northbound traffic; the service street on the westerly side would be for southbound traffic; the existing pavement in John Marshall Place would be utilized for traffic in two directions. These streets should be laid out in a manner so as not to interfere in any way with the existing row of elm trees and the parking of automobiles on the existing pavement of John Marshall Place should be prohibited.

We believe that this arrangement will satisfy present needs and at such time as a grade crossing elimination is constructed in Pennsylvania Avenue it may be possible to eliminate the existing pavement of John Marshall Place, substituting therefore a mall with lawn and widening the two service streets on the inside to provide for a larger volume of traffic.

I hope the solution of the problem referred to herein will meet with the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Sincerely yours,

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Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

EXHIBIT B

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

WASHINGTON

March 16, 1949.

Dear Mr. Boykin:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting today were pleased to consider with you the question of location of proposed Exposition Buildings for the Sesquicentennial Celebration to be held in Washington in the year 1950.

The Commission approved your suggestion that the buildings be located and built as temporary structures on the Polo Field in West Potomac Park.

The Commission also approve your suggestion to use the Sylvan Theatre and to improve it for use during the Sesquicentennial Celebration.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) GILMORE D. CLARKE,
Chairman.

Mr. Edward Boykin, Director,
National Capital Sesquicentennial
Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON 25

February 14, 1949.

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Referring further to your letter of January 11, 1949, relative to the memorial plaque which the In-Com-Co Club, composed of members of this Commission, desires to erect in memory of its employees who lost their lives in World War II.

I invite your attention to the attached letter from Mr. Chas. L. Harrison, President of the Club, which is self-explanatory.

In view of the fact that it is not now proposed to make the plaque a permanent part of the building, but rather that the plaque be placed on one of the pedestals in the rotunda between hearing rooms A and B, I take it that your Commission would interpose no objections.

Your consideration and advice will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(SIGNED) W. P. BARTEL

Secretary.

Att.

COPY

EXHIBIT D

COPY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

March 4, 1949

Dr. Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Clarke:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of, and thank you for, your letter of February 14, 1949 in reference to the proposed Interior Department Memorial. The Committee accepts your recommendations regarding the flower receptacles and concealed lighting and have eliminated them from the Memorial design.

With regard to the location, the Committee feels that, inasmuch as the proposed Memorial tablets would in effect be merely the substitution of one stone tablet, on each side, for the existing wall stones, the design of the building would in no way be affected adversely. Certainly the names of our War dead inscribed thereon could be considered only as an adornment.

The design, revised as above indicated, has been recommended to the Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT MEMORIAL
COMMITTEE

(SGD.) FRED A. FETTER, JR., Per H.L.R.

(SGD.) LAWRENCE N. STEVENS

(SGD.) HARRY L. RAUL, Chairman.

EXHIBIT E

Dear Mr. Clarke:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of, and thank you for, your letter of February 14, 1941 in reference to the proposed Interior Department Memorial. The Committee accepts your recommendations regarding the floor receptacle and concludes lighting and have eliminated them from the memorial design.

With regard to the location, the Committee feels that inasmuch as the proposed Memorial replaces an edifice to be merely the substitution of one stone tablet for each one for the existing wall stones, the design of the flooring should in no way be affected adversely. Certainly the names of our dear deed inscribed thereon could be considered only as an adornment.

The design, revised as above indicated, has been recommended to the Secretary of the Interior.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

March 17, 1949.

Dear Mr. Raul:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 16, 1949, considered your letter of March 4th, and noted the action taken by your Committee with regard to the proposed Interior Department Memorial.

The Commission suggest that before going further with a design it would be best to discuss the subject with the sculptor member of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Honorable Lee Lawrie, of Easton, Maryland.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Harry L. Raul, Chairman,
Interior Department Memorial Committee,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT E - 1

EXHIBIT E - 1

COPY

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

March 28, 1949.

r. Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D.C.

y dear Dr. Clarke:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of your valued letter of March 17 hich has received the respectful attention of the Memorial Committee t its meeting on March 24. Prior to receiving the above-mentioned letter, he Committee also had earnestly considered the advice contained in your ommunication of February 14.

While it was a cause of great regret that complete agreement with our recommendations was not possible, the Committee recorded its findings y formal vote, and on March 4 forwarded its recommendations to the Secre- ary of the Interior, who has since approved the same, including design nd location. The Secretary has now notified all bureaus and offices in he Department of his approval, and requested that contributions be made or the memorial. The Committee, therefore, respectfully states that it oes not have the authority to re-open the matter by a discussion with the ighly esteemed sculptor member of the Commission, as suggested in your etter of March 17.

The Committee desires to emphasize its sincere appreciation of the racious advice given by your Commission in assisting in revising the de- ign. The revised design now is entirely devoid of ornament and accessories, nd, therefore, clearly conforms to and is consistent in general type and haracter with one of the two standard memorial tablets which the Commission tself recommended in your letter of February 14, namely, the memorial tablet f the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Furthermore, the Committee respectfully desires to again emphasize the ery earnest considerations which guided the Committee in selecting, and later evising, the design, as set forth and described in detail in our earlier ommunications.

Sincerely yours,

Interior Department Memorial Committee,

(SIGNED) HARRY L. RAUL, Chairman.

(EXHIBIT E - 2)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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nton N/C

10 March 1949

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

In response to your letter of February 17, 1949, in which you proposed the building of a working model of the Amphitheater and surrounding area in Arlington National Cemetery to illustrate the proposed remodeling schemes, action was initiated to obtain cost estimates from the Office of the Chief of Engineers for the project. It is understood that Mr. Lorimer Rich has been in close contact with you on this matter and is fully cognizant of your wishes. I was advised on Friday, 4 March 1949, that the cost would be $4,275 for the model, packing case, and Mr. Rich's fees. Funds to this extent are not presently available for this work.

In furtherance of your proposal, however, I have been able to obtain the services of Mr. Thomas H. Jones, Sculptor in the Office of The Quartermaster General, who is capable of constructing the model. I believe you are acquainted personally with him and will agree with me regarding his competence. The details of these arrangements are being coordinated with the Office of the Chief of Engineers. It is expected that the model will be completed by approximately 1 June 1949.

I shall keep you informed as to our progress.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) K. L. HASTINGS
Brigadier General, QMC
Chief, Memorial Division

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(EXHIBIT F)

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

March 18, 1949.

Dear Mrs. Pratt:

At their meeting on March 16, 1949, I brought to the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts a copy of your Report in behalf of the Committee "For the Embellishment and Refurnishing of the State Rooms of the White House," from the Administration of President Coolidge to 1947.

The Commission expressed their appreciation of the Report and thank you for it. It will be made a part of the Minutes of the meeting.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mrs. Harriet B. Pratt,

635 Park Avenue,

New York, N.Y.

EXHIBIT G

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS, FOR THE EMBELLISHMENT AND REFURNISHING OF THE STATE ROOMS OF THE WHITE HOUSE, LISTING CHANGES AND ACQUISITIONS, FROM THE COOLIDGE ADMINISTRATION TO 1947.

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During a week-end at the White House, after the election and second inauguration of the Honorable Calvin Coolidge as President of the United States, Mrs. Harold I. Pratt was asked by the President to advise Mrs. Coolidge upon the refurnishing of the Green Room. Mrs. Pratt suggested that certain persons whose professional life had given them an interest in the history of furniture and of decoration be included in a committee. Therefore the late Charles A. Platt, architect, William Adams Delano, architect and Luke Vincent Lockwood were appointed by President Coolidge to serve with Mrs. Pratt as a temporary committee to advise Mrs. Coolidge in the furnishing of the State Rooms of the White House. Mrs. Pratt was asked to be chairman.

The following were asked to serve in an advisory capacity to the committee in regard to the selection of furniture:

Mr. Robert W. de Forest of the Metropolitan
and Mr. R. T. H. Halsey Museum of Art, New York

It was found necessary to use the appropriation from the government for structural repairs to the White House rather than for refurnishing of rooms. Mrs. Dwight Morrow, Mrs. John T. Pratt and Mrs. George Whitney added to the fund given by Mr. Harold I. Pratt for the decoration of the Green Room.

Somewhat later Mrs. Harry Horton Benkard joined the committee and served until her death in 1945.

During the Roosevelt administration this committee, which had been re-appointed during the Hoover administration, became a sub-committee of the Commission of Fine Arts, whose chairman was Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke. By-laws were drawn up for the work of the sub-committee and these were approved by

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Mrs. Roosevelt.

During the Truman administration Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield, Mrs. Dwight F. Davis and Mr. William T. Aldrich joined the sub-committee.

A list of gifts, and the approval of government purchases, from the Coolidge administration to the expiration of the term of Mrs. Pratt as chairman, in the Truman administration, is hereby submitted:

EAST ROOM:

During the Truman administration, an 18th century marble urn and pedestal - to be placed before the central east window - were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Luke Vincent Lockwood of New York.

GREEN ROOM:

During the Coolidge administration the Green Room was entirely refurnished.

An Aubusson rug was installed.

A small sofa and various tables were furnished by friends of the White House.

A long sofa was donated by Mr. Clarence L. Dillon.

A rosewood dumb waiter was donated by Mrs. Harold I. Pratt

One of a pair of early 19th century crystal candelabra was installed - the gift of Mrs. Harold I. Pratt. The second candelabra was placed in the Red Room.

During the Hoover administration, a Waterford chandelier was donated by Mr. Herbert N. Straus.

In 1947, a pair of very fine card tables, a Lowestoft bowl and a cut glass Irish vase were donated by Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield.

In 1947 a late 18th Century decorated satinwood commode and four side chairs covered in lemon colored brocade were donated by Mrs. Harold I. Pratt.

Ten yards of lemon colored brocade were donated by Mr. Franco Scalamandre of New York.

The purchase of Empire design green silk damask wall covering and green

silk draperies of the same fabric was approved, and the fabric purchased from Scalamandre Silks, Inc.,

Two chairs were recovered in Empire green silk damask.

Certain articles of furniture were recovered in lemon yellow brocade. These textiles were purchased from Scalamandre Silks, Inc.,

A Savonnerie rug, ordered from V'Sosky through B. Altman & Company, was approved. The pattern and colors of this rug following those of the Aubusson rug installed during the Coolidge administration were approved by the committee during Mrs. Pratt's chairmanship. The final approval was made by her successor, Mrs. Dwight F. Davis.

The purchase of 18th century antique frames was approved for the portraits, from Knoedler & Company of New York.

The purchase of Waterford crystal side lights, from Mrs. Johnson's antique shop in Washington, was approved.

BLUE ROOM:

During the Roosevelt administration, a French clock was donated by Mrs. William Eustis for the mantel.

RED ROOM:

During the Coolidge administration one of a pair of early 19th century crystal candelabra was donated by Mrs. Harold I. Pratt. The second one of the pair was placed in the Green Room.

A circular commode was purchased by friends of the White House.

During the Roosevelt administration, a pair of 18th century eagle consoles, a French mahogany and ormulu mantel clock, circa 1800, and an inlaid circular table were donated by Mrs. Harold I. Pratt.

The purchase of two sofas and four side chairs was approved.

During the Truman administration the following purchases were made and gifts accepted:

The purchase of one of a pair of Royal Worcester table lamps from B. Altman

& Company of New York was approved. Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield and Mrs. Harold I. Pratt donated the mate to this lamp to complete the pair.

A fireside wing chair was donated by Mrs. Dwight F. Davis, also a fine pair of large glass vases (to be used upon the eagle consoles).

A very fine Waterford chandelier was donated by Mr. Chester L. Dane of New York.

An Anatolian fireside rug was donated by Mr. J. H. Dildarian of New York.

A loan, from the Smithsonian, of a pair of urns for the mantel, was approved.

Antique 18th century frames were approved for all portraits and were purchased from Knoedler & Company of New York.

DINING ROOM:

A large mirror - formerly in the home of Mrs. Harold I. Pratt - was donated by French & Company of New York during the Truman administration.

Gold colored silk damask draperies were approved for the windows during the Truman administration.

ENTRANCE HALL AND CORRIDOR:

The following changes and gifts were made during the Truman administration:

Red damask draperies were approved for the entrance hall windows.

A pair of superb early 19th century chandeliers (from an anonymous donor) was installed in the main corridor.

Two Houdon reproduction busts, one of Washington and one of Jefferson, were placed upon pedestals in the two niches. These busts were loaned by the Smithsonian.

MAIN STAIRCASE:

During the Truman administration the following changes were made:

A red carpet was approved for the main stairway leading from the entrance floor to the bedroom floor.

A pair of cobalt blue urns - formerly used in the East Room - were placed

in the niches.

A red damask drapery was approved for the window on the stair landing.

BASEMENT CORRIDOR:

During the Truman administration the following changes were made:

A blue/green carpet was approved for the entire length of the basement corridor.

Six new benches of 18th century design, covered in red leather, were approved.

A gracefully draped green curtain was installed which could, on occasion, serve as a screen.

FAMILY BREAKFAST ROOM:

During the Coolidge administration the purchase of a Spanish leather screen by friends of the White House, was approved.

During the Truman administration a very handsome Waterford chandelier was donated by Mrs. Polly Brooks Howe.

Respectfully submitted,

(SIGNED)HARRIET PRATT

March 4, 1949

COPY

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON

February 17, 1949

Henry R. Shepley, Esq.
Coolidge Shepley Bulfinch & Abbott
Ames Building
Boston 8, Massachusetts

Re: Potomac River Highway Bridges at
14th Street, District of Columbia

Dear Mr. Shepley:

I am taking the liberty of rendering a decision on the subject of your letter of February 11, 1949 concerning the matter of omitting the stars on both the steel facis girders and on the granite frieze of the bascule piers and abutments.

I am sure that the Commission of Fine Arts would agree with me and defer to your judgment with respect to this matter. You may assume therefore that it is satisfactory to the Commission of Fine Arts to omit the stars on both steel and granite masonry in accordance with your recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

(Exhibit I)

EXTENSION AND COMPLETION OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to introduce for appropriate reference a bill providing for the extension and completion of the United States Capitol.

In this connection, let me say that in 1937, under the leadership of the Senator from Texas [Mr. CONNALLY], the bill was passed by the Senate, but it was rejected by the House. However, I understand that now the leadership of the House is committed to the provisions of that bill, which provides for the completion of the front portion of the Capitol, which never has been completed, and which is architecturally incomplete. Anyone can understand that if he will get into an airplane or a blimp and pass over the Capitol and see just exactly how the dome of the Capitol projects out over the front portico. Also, the front is made of standstone, and the pillars are made of sandstone, and it is necessary to keep them constantly painted and repaired. They are entirely different from the beautiful fluted granite columns which front the eastern portion of the Senate wing and the eastern portion of the House wing.

Mr. President, in this connection, I desire to make an explanation of why this condition has existed and how long it has existed. I ask unanimous consent to have the bill, together with a statement in connection with the introduction of the bill, printed at this point in the RECORD as a part of my remarks for future guidance of Congress.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the bill will be received and appropriately referred, and the bill and statement will be printed in the RECORD.

The bill (S. 2505) to provide for the extension and completion of the United States Capitol, introduced by Mr. ANDREWS, was read twice by its title, referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the central portion of the Capitol shall be extended, reconstructed, and replaced in substantial accordance with either scheme A or scheme B of the architectural plan submitted by the joint commission of Congress and reported to Congress on March 3, 1905 (H. Doc. No. 385, 58th Cong., 3d sess.), with such modifications as the Commission may determine, excepting so much of said plan as relates to a sculptural group in the pediment of the House wing, and excepting so much of said plan as relates to the west front of the Capitol and to the two broad flights of terrace steps on the west of the Capitol. The joint commission hereinafter provided for shall determine whether the substance of scheme A or scheme B shall be adopted.

SEC. 2. The extension, reconstruction, and replacement herein authorized shall be carried out under the direction and supervision of a commission, which is hereby created, to be known as the Commission for the Extension and Completion of the United States Capitol, and to be composed of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds; the chairman and the ranking minority member of the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, the minority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the House of Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol. The Architect of the Capitol shall perform such services under this act as the Commission may direct.

SEC. 3. The construction contemplated under this act, including the necessary traveling expenses, the letting of contracts, advertising, purchase of materials, supplies, equipment, and accessories in the open market, the employment of all necessary architectural, engineering, and other personal services (all without reference to sec. 35 of the Public Buildings Act approved June 25, 1910, as amended, Sec. 3709 of the Revised Statutes, or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended), and the purchase of necessary technical and other books, shall be under the control of the Architect of the Capitol, subject to the direction and supervision of the Commission.

SEC. 4. The total cost of the extension, reconstruction and replacement, and other items enumerated in section 3 herein authorized shall not exceed the sum of $5,000,000, and a contract or contracts for any portion or all of such amount may be entered into in accordance with section 3. A sum not exceeding $5,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this act.

SEC. 5. Appropriations made pursuant to this act shall be disbursed in the same manner as other appropriations under the Architect of the Capitol through the Division of Disbursements, Treasury Department.

The statement presented by Mr. ANDREWS is as follows:

EXTENSION AND COMPLETION OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL

The United States Capitol Building, as presently constructed, has never been completed architecturally. The north wing of the old building, containing the Supreme Court Room, was constructed during the period 1793 to 1800. The south wing of the old building, containing Statuary Hall, was constructed during the period 1800 to 1811. After the burning of the Capitol in 1814 these sections of the building were reconstructed and the central portion of the old building constructed during the period 1815 to 1829.

The Senate and House wings, containing the present Senate and House Chambers, were not constructed until the period 1851 to 1865, and the old wooden dome was not replaced with the present cast-iron dome until the period 1856 to 1865.

The present Senate and House wings and dome were designed by and constructed under the direction of Thomas U. Walter, who served as Architect of the Capiol during the period 1851 to 1865. Mr. Walter's plans never contemplated leaving the old building in its present state. His plans contemplated extending the old portion of the building eastward and reconstructing in marble this portion of the building which is constructed of Acquia Creek sandstone, a material that is not durable and is disintegrating with the years, notwithstanding the fact that this portion of the building is painted about every 4 years.

In his annual report to Congress November 1, 1863, Mr. Walter stated:

"The eastern portico of the old building will certainly be taken down at no very distant day, and the front be extended eastward, at least to the front line of the wings, so as to complete the architectural group and at the same time afford additional accommodations to the legislative department of the Government. * * *"

In his annual report to Congress the following year, November 1, 1864, Mr. Walter again stated:

"Now that the new dome and the wings of the Capitol are approaching completion it must be apparent to everyone that the extension of the center building on the east to the line of the new wings becomes an architectural necessity. I have, therefore, prepared plans for thus completing the work in harmony with what has already been done and will place them in the Capitol for future reference.

"I do not suppose, nor would I recommend, that any action be taken by Congress in reference to such an improvement until the war is ended and the financial condition of the country becomes settled and prosperous; but inasmuch as it is my purpose to retire from these works as soon as the dome is finished, I deem it incumbent upon me to leave upon record my views as to their final completion."

Numerous efforts have been made during the past 80 years by the three men who have served as Architect of the Capitol since 1865, including the present Architect, to carry into effect Mr. Walter's plans for the extension and completion of the Capitol. Bills have been introduced in the House and Senate for this purpose from time to time and hearings held by the Public Buildings and Grounds Committees of the House and Senate, but the necessary enabling legislation has never been enacted.

Extensive hearings were last held by both the Senate and House committees in 1935 and again by the Senate committee in 1937. On both of these occasions the Senate passed a bill authorizing the extension and completion of the Capitol, but in each instance the bill was not reported out by the House committee.

The bill which I am introducing today provides for the extension and completion of the Capitol. It creates a Joint Congressional Commission under whose direction the work would be accomplished. It provides for the reconstruction of the old portion of the east front of the Capitol in marble, and the extension of this section of the building eastward—the exact distance to be determined by the Commission. The project is to be carried forward in substantial accordance with either scheme A or scheme B of the architectural plan submitted by a previous Joint Commission of Congress in House Document No. 385, Fifty-eighth Congress, March 3, 1905. The bill authorizes an appropriation of $5,000,000 for the project.

In offering this bill, I again wish to emphasize that the extension and completion of the United States Capitol is recommended in order that (1) there may be corrected the architectural defect in the building which exists due to the skirt or base of the dome extending over the east portico in such a manner as to give the appearance of an apparent lack of support to the dome; (2) the Members of the Congress may be provided with much-needed additional accommodations; and (3) a durable construction for the central portion of the building may be provided by the replacement of the existing sandstone with marble.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION RELATING TO THE JUDICIARY

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to introduce a Senate joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The amendment relates to the judiciary. I wish I had time to explain it. I realize that perhaps this may be the last day of the present Congress, and I also realize that probably this is the last day I shall appear on this floor. But this is a matter on which I have worked for several months, and I trust that the joint resolution will be favorably considered by our Judiciary Committee. I feel that if the committee looks into the matter thoroughly, it will recommend the passage of the joint resolution by this body. Its passage and the subsequent ratification of the constitutional amendment will

EXHIBIT J

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

March 17, 1949.

Dear Mr. Coe:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 16, 1949, approved the designs you submitted for the following projects:

Natatorium at Fort Reno Recreation Center;
Natatorium at Taft Junior High School Recreation Center;
Natatorium at Randall Junior High School Recreation Center.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Merrel A. Coe,
Municipal Architect,
District Building,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT K

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1949.

Dear Sir:

We received a copy of the Memorandum of the President, dated March 1, 1949, asking for comments on four reports by the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, presented to the Congress, as follows:-

(1) General Management of the Executive Branch;

(2) Personnel Management;

(3) Office of General Services - Supply Activities;

(4) Budgeting and Accounting.

This matter was brought to the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting March 16, 1949.

The Commission felt that the subjects of these reports are outside of the scope of activities of the Commission of Fine Arts. Therefore, they have no comments other than to make the general statement that they support the fundamental principles set forth in the Commission's report, namely that a reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government is essential in order to insure a more effective administration with greater economy and to relieve the Chief Executive of much detail which accumulated during the years prior to and during World War II.

Respectfully yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

The Director
Bureau of the Budget
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT L

We received a copy of the Memorandum of the President, dated March 1, 1945, asking for comments on four reports by the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, presented to the Congress, as follows:-

(1) General management of the executive branch;

(2) Personnel management;

(3) Office of General Services - Supply activities;

(4) Budgeting and accounting.

This matter was brought to the attention of the Commission of Time Inc. at their meeting March 10, 1945.

The Commission felt that the subjects of these reports are outside of the scope of activities of the Commission of Time Inc. Therefore, they have no comments other than to make the general statement that they support the fundamental principles set forth in the Committee's report, namely that a reorganization of the Executive Branch of the Government is essential [illegible] more effective administration will [illegible] believe the brief [illegible] of such [illegible] during the years ahead [illegible].

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

March 18, 1949.

Dear Mr. Demaray:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 16, 1949, considered a revised design for an apartment building, by Wm. St. Cyr Barrington, architect, to be built adjacent to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, at the north end of Alexandria.

The architect members of the Commission of Fine Arts gave the revised design particular attention, and upon their recommendation the Commission approved it, subject to certain changes in matters of detail, which were explained to the architect.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. A.E. Demaray,
Associate Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT N

DRAFT

The Parties Of The Fifth Part

Resolution

March 17, 1944.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 16, 1944, considered the revised design for a monument, building, by Dr. St. Dyr Burroughs, recently to be erected adjacent to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, at the mouth and of Alexandria.

The architect members of the Commission approve the revised design particularly submitted, and have taken recommendation the Commission approved it, subject to a slight change in the matters of detail, which were explained to the architect.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Secretary pro.

Charles M. Harris,

Chairman.

Hon. H.L. Ickes,
Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

March 16, 1949.

Dear Dr. Thatcher:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, were informed that the portrait of former Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, by Alfred Jonniaux, had been completed by him, and that the advice of the Commission concerning it was desired.

The matter was brought to the particular attention of the painter member of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Honorable Maurice Sterne. Mr. Sterne inspected the portrait, and upon his recommendation the Commission approved it.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Arthur B. Thatcher, Chief,
Office of Plant and Operations,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT AA

Hon. Arthur S. Thatcher, Chief,
Office of Plant and Operations,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.